

A headend of a cable network data communication system utilizes redundant cable modem termination system (CMTS) receiver or transmitter components set in master-slave timer synchronization relationships to reduce resynchronization delays with connected cable modems (CMs) at swap-out. The counts T of timers driven by common or different CMTS master clocks reset to pre- or dynamically set count numbers P for all redundant components in response to synchronization pulse outputs given when the timer of the master reaches its end of cycle time. In one option, selection of the master is set dynamically. In other options, operation of the master is monitored for calibration, parameter equalization and automatic swap-out between master and slaves.